

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 01877 060738Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-02 /085 W
-----060742Z 079696 /21

R 060703Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4551
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1877

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SU, UR, SO
SUBJECT: SUDANESE VIEWS ON SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA

1. DURING COURTESY CALL ON NEW FONMIN DIRECTOR,
WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS, BEREIR MUNTASEM, JUNE 4
WE DISCUSSED SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA.
ALTHOUGH MUNTASEM IS NOT HIGH-RANKING SUDANGOV
OFFICIAL, BELIEVE HIS VIEWS REFLECT CURRENT POLICY.
AFTER DISCUSSING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN GENERAL, I
ASKED FOR HIS REACTION TO VIEW HELD BY SOME OBSERVERS
THAT CONTINUED SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA WOULD BE
STABLIZING INFLUENCE AND LESSEN PROBABILITY OF WAR
BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA.

2. MUNTASEM REJECTED THIS VIEW AND SAID THAT FROM
SUDANESE POINT OF VIEW RUSSIANS COULD NOT RPT NOT
BE TRUSED AND THEIR PRESENCE IN ANY NEARBY COUNTRY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KHARTO 01877 060738Z

WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A DANGER TO SUDAN. SUDANESE
POLICY IS TO DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO WEAN SOMALIS
AWAY FROM THEIR DEPENDENCE ON USSR. THAT IS WHY
PRESIDENT NIMEIRI RECENTLY INDIATED, IN LEBANESE
NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW, THAT IN ANY WAR BETWEEN
SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA, SUDAN WOULD SUPPORT SOMALIS.
THEY FEEL THEY HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS, AND MUNTASEM

URGED USG TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN MEETING
SOMALI NEEDS. FYI: I BRIEFED HIM ON RECENT AID
SURVEY TEAM VISIT TO SOMALIA. END FYI.
HE ADDED THAT SOMALIS DEFINITELY WANT TO MOVE AWAY
FROM SOVIETS ALTHOUGH THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT FILLING
GAP SUCH A MOVE WOULD LEAVE.

3. RE SOVIETS AS A STABILIZING FACTOR, MUNTASEM
DID NOT ARGUE AGAINST THIS VIEW DIRECTLY. HOWEVER,
HE SAID THAT HE BELIEVED SUDANESE INTERESTS WILL BE
SERVED IF SOVIET PRESENCE IN REGION IS CONCENTRATED
IN ETHIOPIA. HE SUGGESTED THAT BY POLARIZING SITUATION
ALL NATIONS OF THE REGION WILL DIRECT THEIR
ATTENTION TO SOVIET-ETHIOPIAN THREAT AND ULTIMATELY
THIS THREAT WILL BE OVERCOME.

4. COMMENT: BELIEVE SUDANGOV FROM NIMEIRI ON DOWN
ACCEPT VIEW THAT SUDANESE INTERESTS ARE JEOPARDIZED
BY SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA. THEIR
TACTICS ARE TO ISOLATE SOVIETS IN ETHIOPIA. FOR
SUDANESE, CONTINUED SOVIET PRESENCE IN BOTH ETHIOPIA
AND SOMALIA, EVEN IF IT IS MORE "STABLE" FROM OUR
POINT OF VIEW, IS UNACCEPTABLE SINCE THEY BASICALLY
MISTRUST SOVIETS WHOM THEY JUDGE AIM ULTIMATELY
TO OVERTHROW NIMEIRI REGIME HERE AS WELL AS SADAT
IN EGYPT. IN EFFECT, SUDANESE BELIEVE FIRST PRIORITY
IS TO GET SOVIETS OUT OF SOMALIA, WHICH THEY BELIEVE
IS POSSIBLE IN RELATIVELY NEAR TERM. HAVING DONE
THAT, THEN TO TURN THEIR ATTENTION TO SOVIET PRESENCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KHARTO 01877 060738Z

IN ETHIOPIA.
BOGOSIAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KHARTO01877
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770200-0625
Format: TEL
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770688/aaaacyxy.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b380b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2266025
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUDANESE VIEWS ON SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA
TAGS: PFOR, SU, UR, SO, (MUNTASEM, BEREIR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b380b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009